

HOUSE BILL 2314

By Griffey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
Chapter 15, Part 4, relative to criminal law.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-15-401, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

() As used in this section:

(1) "Child" includes an unborn child; and

(2) "Unborn child" means an individual living member of the species, homo sapiens, throughout the entire embryonic and fetal stages of the unborn child from fertilization to full gestation and childbirth.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-15-402, is amended by deleting subsections (c) and (d) and substituting the following:

(c) As used in this section:

(1) "Child" includes an unborn child;

(2) "Dangerous instrumentality" means an item that, in the manner of its use or intended use as applied to a child, is capable of producing serious bodily injury to a child;

(3) "Serious bodily injury to a child" includes, but is not limited to, second- or third-degree burns, a fracture of a bone, a concussion, subdural or subarachnoid bleeding, retinal hemorrhage, cerebral edema, brain contusion, injuries to the skin that involve severe bruising or the likelihood of permanent or protracted disfigurement, including those sustained by whipping children with objects, and acts of female genital mutilation as defined in § 39-13-110; and

(4) "Unborn child" means an individual living member of the species, homo sapiens, throughout the entire embryonic and fetal stages of the unborn child from fertilization to full gestation and childbirth.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.